

DRIED APRICOTS

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2008



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PRODUCTION

Turkey is on the top of the fresh and dried apricot producer countries with approximately 390,000 tons of fresh apricot production and 79,000 tons of dried apricot production in 2007. Turkey meets 24.5 % of the fresh apricot production and 79.7 % of the dried apricot production in the world alone.

Apricot cultivation, which spreads in most of the agricultural regions of Turkey, finds its best environment in the Central Eastern Anatolian Region where nearly half of the crops are produced.

Due to the composition arising from the ecology of the province, Malatya origin apricots gained economic value in the form of dried apricots for years. Almost all of the fresh crop in this district is subject to drying process and at least 90-95 % of the dried apricots produced, is exported. On the other hand, the province of Izmir has been recorded as the main export area for Turkish dried fruits thanks to the established big processing and exporting companies by years.

Turkish Dried Apricot Production By Years (Tons)

Years	Production (dried)
2000/2001	88,000
2001/2002	98,000
2002/2003	63,000
2003/2004	94,000
2004/2005	80,500
2005/2006	139,000
2006/2007	90,000
2007/2008	79,000

Source: International Nut and Dried Fruit Council Foundation (INC)

The most important varieties, according to the quantity produced, are HACIHALILOGLU, SOGANCI, KABAASI and CATALOGLU. Dried apricots, with many of the major vitamins and minerals in its composition, are found to be useful to many functions of the human body.

EXPORT

Dried apricots are among the traditional agricultural export products of Turkey. The export share of dried apricots, both in terms of quantity and value, has been showing an upward trend by years. The total amount of Turkey's apricot exports amounted to approximately 105 thousand tons and 236 million dollars in 2007 with an decrease of 7.8 % in quantity and with an increase of 21.4 % in value compared to the previous year.

Turkish Dried Apricot Exports By Years

Years	Quantity (Tons)	Value (\$ US 1.000)	Change in Quantity (%)	Change in Value (%)
1993	33,951	83,692	-	-
1994	44,927	87,656	32.3	4.7
1995	50,835	99,146	13.2	13.1
1996	43,820	106,072	-13.8	7.0
1997	40,509	111,617	-7.6	5.2
1998	50,383	120,362	24.4	7.8
1999	55,403	126,169	10.0	4.8
2000	68,128	107,852	23.0	-14.5
2001	85,626	88,066	25.7	-18.3
2002	69,089	117,854	-19.3	33.8
2003	72,868	150,223	5.5	27.5
2004	81,292	197,704	11.6	31.6
2005	95,803	179,529	18.1	-9.1
2006	113,859	194,363	18.6	8.1
2007	105,031	236,020	-7.8	21.4

Source: Turkish Statistical Institute

The USA has been the primary importer country of Turkish dried apricots with a share of about 16.7 %. Russian Fed., Germany, U.K, France and Australia were the following important export destinations of Turkish dried apricots in 2007. These top six countries make up for more than half of the Turkish dried apricot exports in this year.

Turkish Dried Apricot Exports To Top-Ten Countries (Value (V): \$ US, Quantity (Q): Kg)

	COUNTRY	Q		V	
		2006	2007	2006	2007
1	USA	17.606.585	15.514.233	33.867.276	39.446.195
2	RUSSIAN FED.	23.343.862	20.210.097	23.794.851	29.545.158
3	GERMANY	7.610.841	8.451.268	15.724.557	23.406.872
4	U.K	10.047.195	9.380.087	19.041.085	22.370.016
5	FRANCE	6.892.328	6.821.268	15.966.997	19.466.862
6	AUSTRALIA	7.126.305	4.307.000	13.002.029	10.511.518
7	EGEAN FREE TRADE ZONE	2.166.757	2.699.825	4.642.683	7.139.954
8	UKRAINE	5.834.813	5.711.426	5.702.336	6.537.875
9	NETHERLANDS	2.385.366	2.386.057	4.829.876	6.230.931
10	BREZIL	1.834.629	2.146.293	3.912.232	6.040.949
	OTHERS	29.010.900	27.403.589	53.879.769	65.324.624
	TOTAL	113.859.581	105.031.143	194.363.691	236.020.954

Source: Turkish Statistical Institute

The Countries are listed according to Turkey's export figures in 2007